THE GENESEE FARMER.

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PUBLISHED BY LUTHER TUCKER.

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GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 1837.

Rhode Island Agricultural Society.

The people of New England, their legislators and their farmers, certainly act with far greater promptitude and decision when any thing of vital interest is concerned, than those of any other section of the Union. The advancement of agriculture with them is an object of this nature, and they have taken hold of it with a liberality and earnestness that is the sure precursor of success. Here is the little state of Rhode Island, scarcely larger or more populous than one of our counties—a state that, with Delaware, Major Noah once threatened to put in his breeches pocket, that has come forward and offered more money for premiums, and embracing a larger list of articles to be rewarded, than, it is believed, New York, with her two and a half millions of inhabitants, her railroads and canals, and her unbounded commerce, can boast. We love to notice such proofs of public spirit as Rhode Island has shown. These are the efforts that make men happier and better, as well as more wealthy and comfortable, and have a direct tendency to increase the population, integrity, and honorable character of any people that adopt them. There was a time when New York too had her Societies, and a beneficial emulation was excited among her farmers by a judicious distribution of the public money; and are those days never to return? is frequently asked by those who witnessed the salutary effects of those Societies, and the spirit of inquiry their public meetings and discussions produced.

In order to show the liberal nature and extent of the R. I. Society premiums, we have made a short summary of the various objects embraced.

	No of Premi.	Am't offered.
For the best cultivated farms,	2	$125 00
For the best Indian corn,	2	35 00
do. do. rye,	2	8 00
do. do. wheat,	3	18 00
Potatoes, beets and carrots,	4	40 00
Introducing a new and superior grass,	1	10 00
Seeding grass lands,	1	10 00
Best honey,	1	5 00
STOCK.		
Bulls,	7	52 00
Cows and heifers,	7	41 00
Working cattle and steers,	9	36 00
Boars and pigs,	5	22 00
For each yoke of cattle driven to the annual fair,	1	1 00
Butter and cheese,	10	65 00
Household manufactures,	10	33 00
Shop manufactures,	21	135 00
Green crops, destruction of insects, and fattening swine,	5	65 00
Ploughing match,	8	44 00
	99	$744 00

Making a total of about one hundred separate articles on which premiums will be awarded, and the handsome sum of seven or eight hundred dollars to be distributed. The modes of culture, and management of the farms, are to be fully given, and we presume published for the benefit of the community, as in this way the exertions of the few can be brought to bear on the many.

It is said that the oil of lavender is an excellent exterminator of moths. If a single drop is put into a box with a living insect, the latter almost immediately dies.

Artificial Crystals.

In the course of the last volume of the Farmer we gave some instances of the astonishing effects of electricity, or Electro-magnetism, as it is called by Davy and Dalton, in advancing vegetation when applied to that purpose; and we have now to record other equally striking evidences of the active agency of this imponderable fluid, when used in a widely different field of science, that of the formation of artificial crystals and minerals.

Mr. Cross, of Somerset, Eng., lately stated before the British Association, that he had been engaged in experiments on the Voltaic battery, and that he had kept it in full force for twelve months by water alone, rejecting acids entirely. Observing that in some caverns near his residence the slate was studded with crystals of *arragonite*, while in the limestone parts, crystals of *calcareous spar* were found, he subjected portions of each of these substances in water to long continued galvanic action, (ten days,) and obtained from the slate crystals of arragonite, and from the limestone crystals of calcareous spar. By carrying on the process in the dark the crystals were obtained in six days, with only one fourth of the voltaic power. Experiments frequently repeated, always produced the same results; and Mr. Cross was fully convinced that it was possible to make by a similar action even diamonds, and that at no distant period every kind of mineral would be formed by the ingenuity of man. He had already succeeded in obtaining crystalized quartz, blue and green carbonates of copper, chrysocolla, phosphate of copper, arseniate of copper, acicular carbonate of lead, sulphate of lead, sulphuret of iron, white antimony, and several other minerals.

The evidence is increasing with a rapidity truly surprising, that in all the various processes of growth and nutrition, of concretion and crystalization, of the aggregation and development of *matter*, whatever its kind may be, from the lowest degree of organized nature to the very highest, this all pervading agent in the hands of Omnipotence, is the one by which He principally carries his creative and reproductive works into operation. Power when ample always is divested of complexity; every additional step made in revealing the wonders of nature proves this most incontestibly.

New Ornamental Tree.

Some of the eastern papers have announced the discovery of a new tree in our forests, which we think from the description must be a valuable addition to our already large class of ornamental evergreens. It has been proposed to call it *Pinus Tiverionensis*, from the place of its growth, which is in Tiverton, Rhode Island. It is a shrub or tree belonging to class xii. Monœcia; and is described as follows,—"Leaves solitary, flat, denticulate, nearly in rows, cones ovate, terminal, hardly longer than the leaves." It is a straight tree, remarkable for the horizontal arrangement of its branches, and in these respects as well as in the position of its cones and leaf bears a resemblance to the *Pinus canadensis* of Bigelow. But what principally distinguishes it from other trees of the same species, is the beautiful red flowers which it is described as producing; these being of various sizes, from the dimensions of a large cup down to that of a dime. The outer leaves of the flower are a faint red, the inner ones a rich deep scarlet. The blossoms appear about the 25th of December, and it has sometimes been used at Christmas, forming a beautiful evergreen for the decoration of churches at that religious festival.

The occurrence of such instances of the discovery of new trees and plants even in the oldest settled parts of our country, shows that the labor of the scientific observer and botanist will not pass unrewarded; while the plants of the wide west offer a most inviting field for investigation, one which as yet, has hardly attracted the notice of science, or submitted its rich stores to the examination of the enquiring and the curious. It is possible some farmers may be disposed to speak lightly of the pursuits of the naturalist, and his investigations; but before he does so, let him remember the debt he owes him in the discovery and introduction to culture, we may almost say the civilization, of nearly all the grains, grapes, and roots, that form so large a part of human subsistence, and add so greatly to the comfort and happiness of our race.

Dogs.

We are glad to perceive that an effort is making for a reform in the dog law, and that petitions to that effect will be presented to the present Legislature. This is the way in which farmers should go to work to correct abuses, and obtain protection for their rights. If the friends of agriculture would make themselves heard, by petition, in favor of agricultural societies, an improved system of road making, or some method which shall abate the nuisance of such a multitude of dogs, they would probably succeed. If in the other walks of life any particular object is to be attained, men combine to effect it, and why, when the interests of the farmer are to be advanced, should not the same system of association and combined effort be adopted?

Dogs, it may be said, without qualification or reservation, are a scourge to community, and a curse to the farmer. The good they do, weighs scarcely a feather in the balance against the injuries and losses they inflict. I speak of the great mass of dogs, hound and cur, whelp and puppy, of every degree, that infest our streets, levying contributions from every available source, and getting their living in any way but an honest one. We have no wish to deny that some dogs have exhibited noble qualities, and have made themselves useful to their masters; but these are not the ones that are prowling the streets, attacking the sheep fold, and performing every imaginable act of mischief and plunder. Their increase seems to bid defiance to calculation. Between nine and ten thousand were killed in the city of New York the past year, without any sensible diminution of the canine multitude; and in the country their very numbers has rendered the law taxing them inoperative and a dead letter. For ourselves we have no faith that any system of taxation will prove any thing more than a palliative to the evil. No law will be effectual which does not outlaw and render liable to a summary execution, every dog of whatever name or kind, found without a collar bearing his master's name. If a man has a dog worth keeping, he is worth the expense of a collar; if he is not worth that expense, killing him should be considered a meritorious act. There are so many loop-holes and evasions to the present dog law, that an attempt to obtain damages of an owner is generally useless, and a farmer may have fifty dollars worth of sheep destroyed in a single night by a pack of worthless curs, with scarcely a prospect of remuneration.—We like the form of the petition in a late number of the Farmer, as far as it goes, very well; the only objection is, it does not go far enough, and place

under the law of proscription every collarless nameless dog in the country.

The Winter in Massachusetts.

Extract of a letter from a subscriber at Richmond, (Mass.) dated March 11, 1837:

"The quantity of snow which has fallen in this region is much less than we had in 1835-6, although our roads are about as badly drifted. The first snow fall of consequence was Jan. 1, since which the supply has been abundant. The probable depth for the winter I should estimate at 2½ feet. January was a fine winter month, beautiful for business. The splendid Aurora of the 25th, exhibited essentially the same appearances here as in other places from which we have received accounts. It was certainly sublime and beautiful, particularly in its reflections on the snow, to which it gave a splendid crimson coloring. Such exhibitions are very rare, but when they do appear, we would always be among the admiring spectators who gaze upon them.

"We have had no thaw since the setting in of winter, whose influences have extended through the snow, until the 8th and 9th of the present month, since which our snow, though it freezes nights, is gradually wasting away. We shall gladly hail the time of its final departure—when spring shall again breathe its spicy fragrance, the lambs shall skip upon the hills, and the corn shoot up in the valleys—while man goes forth to his labors with joy, and returns with thanksgivings.

"Produce of nearly all kinds, as well as stock, is extremely high. Flour $11 per barrel, corn and rye each $1,25 per bushel. Hay is the cheapest commodity we have in market, being only $6 to $8 per ton, which we attribute in a measure to the abundance of *root crops* raised last summer."

On Training Agriculturists.

Address, delivered before the Agricultural Society of Skaneateles, on the 4th of March, 1837, by their President, Amasa Sessions.

[Concluded.]

As the customs of the times now are, the more sons a man has, the poorer he is off, as it respects both wealth and labor: for instead of his children doing his service for him, he, in many cases, must be their drudge and slave, to do all he can; and then he must hire the rest done as well as he may. And what think ye, my friends, of the man who goes out to service? It is not now extremely difficult to hire a laboring man, who will serve you with all that ability and fidelity, even for high wages and good living, that an honest man ought to do? Is it not almost impossible, at times, for the farmer to get on with his work, and have it accomplished in proper season, either in doors or out? What then is to be done? How shall this everlasting sight of work be performed? If we must bring up our sons to be dandies, and our daughters to be dolls, must we not have slaves? If it be right for our sister States, in this land of liberty, to buy and sell slaves as property, and raise them to vend in the market, as we do oxen and horses, why not the farmers of this State employ them to do their labor as they once did? This plan would relieve our dear children from hard, dirty work, so that they might come up gentlemen and ladies; pretty creatures, they then never need wet their hands to work.

Something must be done; some plan must be devised to carry forward the labors of husbandry; there is a necessity for it: and suppose that all the free States, so called, should resort to the institution of domestic slavery, what, I ask, would be the consequence? It would prove either a curse or a blessing. It would, to be sure, appear rather awkward in the view of the civilized nations of the earth, that these States, which have once abolished slavery, should return to it again; and that the same race of men, who have cleared and settled a wilderness, and who have attained to greater wealth and prosperity than any other people, should so degenerate in less than one century, as to have occasion for slave labor.

But serious, very serious, I am, in saying, that unless farmers awake from their lethargy, and reform to the right training of their sons to agriculture, and their daughters to be farmers' wives, it cannot be many years before something like servitude, in the form of slavery must ensue; unless, peradventure, our children's children may become so very feeble as not to be able to control their fellow creatures in servile bondage. But in such an event, it would not be unreasonable to anticipate, with Thomas Jefferson, that an entire change should take place, and that the colored people, who will be greatly multiplied, and also mightily increased in strength by their arduous labors, should become the masters, and our posterity, in their turn, become the burden bearers.

Having pointed you to some of the evils which are thought to stand in the way of educating children for the agricultural department, it will in the next place be necessary to show how these evils are to be removed, and how children should be rightly trained.

Goldsmith, in his history of Greece, tells us about one Lycurgus, a very sagacious statesman of Sparta, who adopted and carried into effect, the following discipline for children: 'Those infants,' says he, 'who were born without any capital defect, were adopted as children of the State, and delivered to their parents to be nursed with severity and hardship. From their tenderest age they were accustomed to make no choice in their eating, nor to be afraid in the dark, or when left alone, not to be peevish or fretful, to walk barefoot, to lie hard at nights, to wear the same clothes winter and summer, and to fear nothing from their equals. At the age of seven years they were taken from their parents and delivered over to the classes for a public education. Their discipline there was little else than an apprenticeship of self-denial and obedience.' It is proper to remark, that according to history, when these sons were grown up to manhood, they were capable of enduring the greatest hardships, and of sustaining the most severe toils and sufferings. These facts, then, should be very teachable to us; for, in the first place, if we design to educate our children for times of war, or to be owners and drivers of slaves, the true policy for training them is here pointed out. But lest I am misunderstood, you will permit me here to remark, that I do most unqualifiedly believe, that all wars and slavery are unnecessary for men, and wicked in the sight of God, and therefore ought to be abhorred and avoided by all men. The dreadful effects which invariably follow these two vices, proves to a demonstration that neither nations nor individuals have any right to destroy or enslave each other.

It is not contended that we need the severe war discipline of savages to be applied to farmers' children; yet it must be admitted that it lies not farther from the truth than does the extreme delicacy which is adopted by many parents at the present time, the result of which is to make dandies and simpletons, and not men.

It is believed to be far better to feed infants with coarse food, than with preserves and sweetmeats; to bathe their bodies often in cold water, rather than to give them milk punch to drink; to accustom them to go almost naked rather than to surfeit them with tight bandages and an abundance of hot clothes; and as they grow older, to inure them to all that exercise and hardness which their constitutions will bear; and this should be done in the morning, and in out door air. In this way a good foundation for health and vigor may be laid in the first four years of the child's life, which, if neglected, can never be regained.

You may suppose, gentlemen, that I am out of my place; that this subject is too delicate for us, and that it belongs to nurses and physicians. Let me tell you that physicians have left the best written treatises on this subject, perfectly agreeing with the above. But where parents are determined, through excessive fondness to spoil their children, it is not their business to be always prescribing *preventives*, but to prescribe *remedies*.

It is therefore high time that every farmer should understand this business of raising his own species for himself. Indeed, it not only betrays a want of self-respect, and of self-interest, to neglect it, but it is dangerous to trust it to others. Every mother should, in all ordinary cases, be the nurse of her own children.

All good farmers think it highly proper to obtain all knowledge upon the subject of all kinds of stock; even the most minute concerns of crossing the different breeds of animals, to improve the stock; of the age they should be put to breeding; and of the manner in which the various kinds of young should be treated, until they arrive at maturity—all this, you know, is abundantly detailed in books and periodicals, and very properly so, too. But who ever heard of a farmer giving an essay or a lecture in his family, or elsewhere, to his sons and daughters on the best way of improving and perpetuating his own species to future generations? I never heard such a subject agitated in my youth. The whole matter has been left to the fancies and caprice of youth, as though they had no understandings to be cultivated on the subject. To be sure, parents have told their children that in forming matrimonial connexions, they should have a regard to character; and also that it would be very inconvenient to marry one of another religion: but above all, it has been thought that the son or daughter *married well*, if they got a companion who was *rich*. This worldly property would overbalance all other defects. It was of little consequence whether the companion for life had been bred to business, prudence or economy; whether there was any symmetry of form or muscular strength. If the person had been to school sufficient to learn the etiquette of fashion, and was rich, they certainly had married well. But these unequal matches, from the want of right training, have sometimes proved very expensive as well as troublesome. A man of business, as an agriculturist, certainly needs a wife who is a companion and a help mate; one who is by health and education qualified to superintend the household affairs and be the mother of his children. And let me tell you, that forty years ago young people were not afraid to marry at a proper age, and when married, each in their sphere considered it their pride and their pleasure to perform their respective parts of manual labor—not merely to oversee the hired folks, but to do the work as far as they were able themselves.—Those families have raised from six to twelve children, generally; and where they have brought them up according to my working plan, they are well qualified to emigrate to the far west, and, as their fathers have done here, clear away a new wilderness, and make it a land of plenty. So necessary is it for health and usefulness that children be brought up to exercise in regular labor, that I very much doubt the propriety of sending a child to any school where he cannot be employed at least three hours every day at some kind of work. This should be done as well for the forming his habits to industry, as for the benefit of his health. With this view it is certainly proper for us all to encourage manual labor schools throughout our country as much as may be, and thus save our children from indolence and profligacy as much as possible.

Why should we send our children to school year after year to learn theories which they will never need to practice, and in such a manner as enervates and unfits them for labor and usefulness for the remainder of their lives? It is not mere mental labor that gives food or clothing. It is not mere reading and thinking which makes the man, but it is action, connected with knowledge. I certainly would be no enemy to a sound, practical education; but I see no necessity for a child spending all his years at school to learn that which he will never have occasion to practice. It must be folly to do so, if that child is to be an agriculturist; for there is such a wide field and such an endless variety in this profession, that it will take him all his life to learn it, and practice it. Who are the men, let me ask, who have best succeeded in accumulating wealth, and who have at the same time enjoyed the best health? Is it not invariably those who have, from their infancy, been accustomed to endure hardship in some mechanical or agricultural employment? It is not the land jobber, the speculator, who has spent his time in gambling upon what our industrious citizens have accumulated! No! he has brought nothing into the world with him; he has

added nothing to the common stock, and it is most likely that he or his children will have nothing when they die.

Somewhere in the course of my reading I fell upon this sentiment, (I think it was from Franklin,) that young people ought to marry when their bodies have arrived to that state of maturity which the God of nature has fitted them. And although Franklin and many others may not have observed this good rule, yet every one must know that fruit out of season is uncomely and unpalatable. But it is the case that very many of the youth amongst us, of both sexes, have been brought up in such a miserable, effeminate, indolent manner, that their bodies are not fit for marriage or labor, either intellectual or corporeal; they are unfit to propagate their own species, unless you would wish for a nation of feeble dwarfs. And it is justice that those parents, who, through false tenderness, have deprived their children of health and strength, and the means of obtaining an honest living by their labor, that they should be left on their hands in a state of celibacy until they have used up the patrimony of their parents, and the race become extinct.

I recommend, however, with all good feeling, for the farmers to put their sons to regular industry as early as eight years of age, during the spring, summer and autumn, and see to it that they learn the art of agriculture in all its parts and branches—the nature of the different soils—how to make and how to use manure—farming utensils, how to obtain, take care of, and use them—of teams, and the various kinds of farm stock—of grains and grasses, how raised and used—of fruit trees, and all kinds of forest trees—in a word, have them learn the value of health, of time, and of property—of human nature, and of human business. And if they are good scholars, they will begin to know something, and to do something, by the time they are twenty-one. And then if it should be the case that the young women of this country are not fit for wives, I would recommend them to the Lowell factories, where there are, I am informed, more than six thousand young women who know how to maintain and educate themselves by their labor.

Children should, ere they become men and women, learn three lessons in government: 1st, unconditional submission to their parents in infancy—2d, how to govern themselves and their passions in childhood—3d, how to govern others, or how to exercise dominion over beasts, by breaking colts, and steers, &c., in youth. When my eldest children were in infancy, I looked forward to see what I would wish them to be, when they became men and women. I then felt a vast responsibility resting upon me, as every parent ought to do. And I saw an everlasting sight of work to be done by their parents, in order to fit them for those stations in life in which I wished them to act. My labors have been blessed of God, and I now hope in confidence that my children will never be slaves nor slave owners.

It is said that any fool may get property. This is no doubt true in these times; and it is also true that any fool may spend it. It is said again that it takes a wise man to keep property. This may be pretty true. An avaricious man, however, may keep property to his own hurt, and to that of his posterity. *He is not wise.* But it may be said in truth that it requires goodness of heart, liberality of soul, and a mind well cultivated, to make a right use of property, and enjoy it. Such a person will feel thankful to God for his possessions, and strive to use them for the benefit of himself and his fellow men universally.

From the Germantown Telegraph.

Oats.

There is a difference of opinion among farmers as to the proper time for sowing oats. While some contend that it is best to sow as soon as the frost is out sufficiently for the land to be worked, others insist on a different course, and choose not to sow until the ground has become quite dry and warm. It may be a fact that late sowed oats in some and perhaps in most instances, produce a greater quantity of straw than those early sown, and it may be and probably is true in as many instances, that the grain is proportionably lighter, so that if weight of grain is the prime object, that course of procedure as it respects sowing, is best, which is most likely to produce the desired result.

There seems to have been a general failure in the crop of oats through this part of the country the past season, there being but few instances, where they are so heavy by one third as they have been in other years, when no calamity has befallen them.

Notwithstanding the general failure, I had as good a crop of oats the past season, as in any former year, having over one hundred bushels, from little more than two acres of ground, weighing thirty-three pounds per bushel. Such being the fact, it is a question with myself and others, what should be the cause of my obtaining a better crop than any other farmers in the neighborhood. That which to me appears as the probable and only cause, is early sowing. Although my ground is in no better condition than land in general, I sowed my oats several days earlier than other farmers in the vicinity.

There were several fields contiguous to mine, where the soil and cultivation were not essentially different, but which were sowed a few days later, which in every instance failed to produce a middle crop. I have always been in the habit of sowing my oats as soon as possible after the ground had become settled, believing it to be the better way, and observation and experience the past season, have only strengthened my belief, that such a course is a correct one. A FARMER.

With respect to the time of sowing oats, there is no such thing as affixing *a day*. Every farmer must be guided by his own locality. As a general rule it is always safest to sow them as soon as the ground will admit of ploughing without danger of baking from being too wet. The sooner they are got in the better, as oats delight in a cool and moist atmosphere, and hence it is that the Irish and English oats are generally heaviest in Great Britain, while in this country, the northern or such as are grown in the Glades, take the precedence. If oats be sown at the proper period, and are followed by any thing like a fair, or tolerably fair season, there is but little doubt of their making a remunerating crop. It is, however, a lamentable fact, that with us they are most generally assigned the poorest spot on the farm, and are left unaided by manure to struggle to maturity, and when reaped if not as good as the *seed* were, they are libelled with the imputation of having degenerated, whereas the true fault lies with the grower, in not having given them a fair chance of perpetuating themselves in perfection. Although they will grow in any soil, like all other members of the grain family, they grow *best* when nourishment is given them, and the farmer who expects first rate oats without laying a proper groundwork for their growth, does most certainly lie under a most fatal delusion.

As to the quantity of seed, if sown without clover or other grass seed, less than 2½ to 3 bushels to the acre should not be sown; where sown with grass seeds 2 bushels is enough, and the ground would be the better of two ploughings.—*Editor Farmer and Gardener.*

Forcing Cuttings.

As the season of setting cuttings of the Morus multicaulis is approaching, the following letter from Mr. John Hopkinson, of Hopkinsville, Ohio, to Mr. David S. Porter, of Cincinnati, containing directions for forcing them, cannot fail of being acceptable to the cultivators of this valuable plant. Not having tried the method, we cannot speak of it experimentally, but have no doubt of its utility in cases where it is desirable to produce a large growth the first season.

"About the 10th of March, if the weather is suitable, I make what we call a hot-bed, by some termed a forcing border, large enough to allow 3 square inches for each cutting I intend to set. The bed is made in the usual manner, by filling up the bottom with fresh horse manure, 18 inches or 2 feet deep. I then procure good sods, (similar to those used for sodding down yards,) sufficient to cover the surface of my hot-bed. These sods I cut into pieces three inches square, and insert a cutting in the middle of each, leaving barely a bud out. I then place these sods completely together on the hot-bed. and sprinkle over the whole a light covering of finely pulverised loam. The manure should be wet with hot water before the sods are put on; the bed should likewise be watered with warm water, every other day, and kept covered with a good thick covering of straw, or some other matter, in the night and cold days.

"In this manner I can have cutting from 4 to 8 inches high, by the usual time of setting out, say the 1st of May. I then take the cuttings, and the sod with them, and transplant them into the nursery taking care to water for a few days after they are transplanted."—*Silk Cult.*

Apple Pork.

FRIEND HOLMES:—I here give an account of a small apple porker of 1836. He was 15 months old; of the Newbury white and Bedford Breed; weighed 312 lbs. The leaves weighed 22 1-2 lbs.; the *Roundabout* weighed 12 1-2 lbs.; head 21 1-4 lbs.; bone of the head 3 1-4 lbs.; feet and legs 8 3-4 lbs. I have heretofore given my method of fattening.

Said pig was weaned upon apples, and kept upon a very small quantity of grass with two quarts of raw potatoes per day through the summer. I have no doubt that we can make our hogs as large and as fat upon apples as upon any thing else, only it requires longer time than it would to fatten them upon corn. We cannot spare the corn, especially during the present season, therefore we use that which will yield the greatest profit. I have been thus particular in the weight of the hog, in order to ascertain the comparative weight of offal, and I know of no other way to come at the facts, except by weight and measure. I also wish that other farmers would communicate the results of their experiments in the Farmer, that the public may know what is the most economical method to pursue, for I think we are rather deficient in actual experiments, although we have plenty of theories. PAINE WINGATE.

Hallowell, 3d mo. 18, 1837.

N. B. Perhaps it would be well to just mention, that the pork was of uniform thickness, generally about three inches; in the very thickest parts it was four inches.—*Maine Far.*

Sweet Apple Bread.

MR. HOLMES—As economy in every thing is commendable, permit me to give you the following recipe for making sweet bread or cake from apples. Peel and quarter the sweet apples, put them into a pan, cover it with paste, bake them till quite soft, rub them through a coarse sieve, take the pulp thus obtained, knead in flour to a proper temper, putting in yeast and shortening sufficient.—*Ib.* P. W.

Potatoe Yeast.

MR. HOLMES—Your readers will find the following recipe to be useful. Take one quart of water. Peel and slice two middle sized potatoes—one half pint of hops—boil about half an hour—throw in a handful of middlings while boiling—then strain it through a thin cloth, pressing hard: thicken it with three gills of flour while it is hot. When blood warm add one gill of yeast to commence fermentation; put in a warm place, and when it has worked or fermented well, it is fit for use.—*Ib.*

Soda for Washing.

We have been requested by a correspodent, to publish the recipe for washing with Sub-carbonate of Soda.

To five gallons of water add a pint and a half of soft soap, and two ounces soda. Put the clothes (after soaking over night) into the mixture when at boiling heat, rubbing the parts most soiled with soap. Boil them one hour—drain—rub, and rinse them in warm water; after being put into indigo water, they are fit for drying. Half the soap and more than half the labor is saved by washing in this manner.—*Silk Cult.*

Rain gauge.—Many who are curious enough to know how the depth of rain is ascertained, and perhaps to test the same, can learn the following simple method. Take a funnel, whose large orifice is exactly ten inches, and fix in a bottle. The descending rain will fall into the funnel, and from thence into the bottle. The quantity of rain caught is then ascertained by multiplying the weight in ounces by 173, which gives the depth in inches and parts of an inch.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Hedges--Osage Orange.

The publication of an article in a late number of the Gen. Farmer, making inquiry on the subject of hedges, and signed by "A Young Farmer," seems to offer a suitable occasion for again bringing to notice a plant which is but little known, though eminently adapted to that purpose. I allude to the *Maclura* or Osage Orange. During the past year or two, I have several times attempted to introduce it to the consideration of those who contemplate the construction of live fences; and from my own experience I have recommended it as perfectly hardy. In a late number of the Cultivator, however, I was surprised to find a character given to it by the editor of that paper, which is entirely at variance with all the knowledge I possess, or have been able to collect, concerning it. In the climate of A bany it is represented as being very tender, "even more tender than the Morus multicaulis, as it had been there killed to the ground every winter."

To account for such an effect, I felt certain there must have existed some local cause; but my information did not enable me to point it out. The only instance I had ever heard of the Maclura being injured by frost, was communicated to me by David Thomas of Cayuga county, who stated that during the severe winter of 1835–'36, the portion above the snow had suffered in common with many other plants acknowledged to be hardy. Such a result may of course occur again; but I do not consider the apprehension of it should be deemed sufficient to deter any person from making a trial of its merits. In addition to the favorable testimony of the gentleman just mentioned, I find in the last number of the "Magazine of Horticulture," published at Boston, a communication by William Kenrick, in which he explains in a satisfactory manner the causes of the destruction of the Maclura, and indeed many other hardy trees—such as plums, apples and pears—in the valleys of the Hudson and Connecticut. In the vicinity of Boston, he says the Osage Orange has endured the rigors of the last severe winters, without any protection. I would suggest the republication of this article in the columns of the Genesee Farmer. An article of a somewhat similar character by the same writer is also contained in the Horticultural Register; but it is more exclusively devoted to the plantation of forest trees in general, than to the particular merits of the Maclura.

The evidence just adduced cannot be strengthened by any which can be offered in favor of the hardiness of the Osage Orange in this latitude. Our winters are perhaps too mild to afford a sufficient comparison by which to judge of its capacity to withstand the climate of New York or New England. It is not in all cases, however, that regular and even intense cold is most destructive to vegetable life—the vicissitudes of a southern winter may be no less fatal. I have seen the mercury down to 12 degrees below zero as often as twice within the last few years; and this degree of cold was certainly not sufficient to affect even the water sprouts of the Maclura. At the same time I have had the Morus multicaulis growing along side for several years, and it has always been injured by the frost, and sometimes killed to the ground. During the winter of 1835–'36, nearly all the peach trees in my orchard suffered more or less by the cold—large branches in many cases being destroyed. This would seem to prove that the Maclura may be cultivated at least as far north as the peach; though it is doubtful whether the seeds will be perfected in all situations where the tree may be found to flourish. The fruit is later at coming to maturity in this climate than the heath peach.

Although I entertain no doubt of the perfect adaptation of the Maclura to the construction of a hedge, I am not yet prepared to *certify* to the fact. But the writer of the article in the Horticultural Magazine before mentioned, states that "at Philadelphia it is asserted that it makes the *finest*, the *strongest* and most *beautiful* hedge in the world, being set out in a single row at the distance of twelve or fifteen inches asunder." Its growth is vigorous and spreading; the branches are thickly set, tough and elastic, and every part is covered with a multitude of spines. Nothing can exceed the beauty and luster of its foliage.

I take the liberty to repeat a suggestion I formerly made, namely: that some of our enterprising seedsmen should supply themselves with a parcel of the seed for the benefit of their customers. They might be readily obtained from Arkansas at a moderate expense. It would be better perhaps to order the berries, and to have the seed picked out after they are received. This is a rather tedious, though by no means a difficult operation. The seeds vegetate without any preparation and with great certainty in two or three weeks after planting; and during the first season the young plants will attain to the height of two feet or more, under good culture. Fifty berries, from the native forests of the Maclura, would yield more than a pound of seed, and a pound contains nine or ten thousand grains. This number of plants would be sufficient to set a mile and a half or two miles of hedge, at the distance of twelve or fifteen inches apart. T. S. Pleasants.

Beaverdam, Virginia.

Management of a Farm.

Mr. Tucker—Your correspondent P. on the 45th page of the current volume, has requested some information as to the best manner of conducting his farm so as to improve and make it profitable. To give particular directions in such a case you will perceive is impossible, without a more full and minute knowledge of the farm occupied than has been given, and even then much must be left to the judgment of your correspondent. To work a farm successfully, a knowledge of the leading constituents of the soil, and the manner in which it has been treated, is necessary. Some soils are adapted to wheat, while on others it is produced with difficulty, and a quite uncertain crop; on the last the grasses are generally found to flourish, and hence are good for grazing. As a general rule it may be said that a farm which will produce good wheat, is capable of producing any other crop of either grass or grain that the owner chooses to put upon it, and is therefore capable of any system of amelioration or improvement that experience or science may have devised. On the supposition that P.'s farm is of this class, I shall throw out a few hints, which may possibly be useful to him or to others in farming.

Experience has shown, what indeed theory indicated, that the successful management of the soil is most intimately connected with a rotation of crops; and the best manner in which such rotation could be brought about, has engaged the attention of most of the scientific and able farmers of the present time. The doctrine of rotation is founded on the simple but well established law of nature, that different plants require different kinds of food to support them—that they take this food from the soil in variable quantities, and consequently ground when exhausted for one plant, will sometimes produce an abundant growth of another; that such is the fact is shown by every day's observation of the process which governs the growth of plants. It may be remarked also, that plants derive their growth principally from decayed plants, and hence in a rotation of crops particular attention should be given to those that return the most to the soil on which they grow. Reference too must be had to the mode in which plants receive their nutrition. Some spread their roots near the surface of the earth, as wheat, rye, &c., while others, as the tap-rooted plants, draw their nourishment from a greater depth, scarcely throwing out a root near the surface.

Keeping these facts in view, the rotation of crops, and the alternate culture of every part of the farm, instead of ploughing one field year after year, or mowing another, has introduced a new era in agriculture, improving instead of impoverishing the farm, while the products and profits have in many instances more than doubled. In the system of rotation, the course of plants required for its completion must in some measure depend on the time to be gone through, whether four or six years, or, as is sometimes the case where immediate profits are required, only two or three are allowed. In Pennsylvania, where the system has reached great perfection, the course, as stated in the Farmer's Reporter, is as follows:—Corn the first year; this is always planted on sward ground, carefully ploughed once two or three weeks before the time of planting. The sward is well harrowed without disturbing the sod, marked off with rows three feet apart, in which the corn is planted in hills, one and a half or two feet apart. The corn is plastered when well up, and if too thick is thinned at hoeing. The next crop is oats or barley, sown the succeeding spring. This crop is followed by wheat, the ground being first thoroughly manured with barn yard manure. A rye crop follows the wheat, with which clover seed is sown in March. The clover remains two or three years, and is plastered, when the same rotation commences again.

Mr. Stevens, one of the most successful farmers on the Eastern shore, Md, has given an account of his system of rotation, or what he calls the "seven field system," and which after a long experience of other modes, he decidedly prefers. His farm is divided into seven fields, two of which are every year in corn, two in wheat, two in clover, (one for mowing and the other for pasture,) and one, the stock field, vacant. Mr. Stevens says, "you will observe one corn crop annually will be on the clover, therefore as you do not turn in clover for fallow, which I consider of high importance, I would strongly recommend to have the clover field, (after taking therefrom a crop of seed,) reserved unpastured, and turned in, in the fall, as a preparation for corn, by which means you procure all the advantage to be derived from the clover."

In Western New York, where wheat is the great object, and clover is relied on as the great renovator of the soil, the course of cropping has a direct reference to that object. Where it has been required to make the most money in the shortest time, without reference to exhausting the soil, wheat after wheat has been resorted to, to a considerable extent. Where some regard has been had to the future state of the soil, as well as immediate profit, wheat, clover, and wheat, have followed each other; and where the object has been to improve the soil as well as secure profit, a course embracing from four to six years, has been adopted, including wheat, clover, corn and roots. In a former volume of the "Farmer," a farmer of Monroe gave the following account of his system. "My 150 acres of plough land is divided into ten lots of 15 acres each. My course commences in spring with three fields in wheat, the rest all in clover. I again repeat that all the clover which is to be ploughed must be sown with plaster. Fields Nos. 1, 2, 3, in wheat. No. 4, to receive the yard and stable manure, (which must always be the case with the hoe crops) once ploughed for corn, potatoes, or other roots. No. 5, barley. No. 6, mow for wheat. No. 7, pasture for wheat. No. 8, meadow. Nos. 9 and 10, pasture. Of my 150 acres, 45 of them is annually in wheat;—15 in corn, potatoes or other roots;—15 in barley;—30 in clover preparatory to wheat;—45 for hay or pasture. If the corn ground is sown with wheat, the field which was intended to be mown as fallow may be ploughed in the spring for barley or oats, though the first is by most preferred. The barley stubble should be ploughed twice previous to sowing with wheat. The meadow which is to be sown with wheat, if broken up in July, must be ploughed twice; but if left till August, only once, but very carefully done. The pasture which is intended for wheat ought to be broken up in June, and twice ploughed."

In the New England Farmer for 1823–4, is a valuable paper from Judge Buel, detailing his course of four years, and of five, with a particular account of the expense of profits per acre. His four year course commenced in the spring with corn on land thoroughly manured, the sward turned over, rolled, and corn planted. In the fall corn cut by the bottom, harrowed and ploughed, and sown with wheat. Second year wheat, with turneps after. Third year barley, with ten lbs. of clover seed per acre. Fourth year clover, pasture or mowing. In the five years course:—Indian corn as before. Second year, wheat with ten pounds of clover seed per acre;—third year, clover for mowing—after mowing turned over and ruta bags sown;—fourth year, barley and clover seed as before;—

fifth year, clover for mowing or pasture. The manure in all cases to be applied to the corn or the turneps.

We think P. will find in the foregoing examples sufficient direction as to the most approved method of cropping, or cultivating his farm so as to make it both durable and profitable. He must, however, bring his own judgment largely into requisition, or he will after all fail as a farmer. Experiments and books furnish results and principles—the application of them must depend on the individual. If his farm is destitute of fruit trees, let him apply to some nurseryman of established probity for a supply, and be careful that the selection is of the best kind, and *adapted to his location*. To plant poor fruit trees because they can be obtained cheaper, is miserable policy, and poor fruit is worse than nothing; and there are locations where expences in procuring certain kinds of trees would be entirely thrown away, for they will not succeed. If P. wishes stock, let him procure good blood, and good formed animals, and he need not fear the result; the best in such cases are usually the cheapest in the end.

But if after all P. wishes to succeed as a farmer, he must attend to his farm himself. He must see there is a place for every thing, and every thing in its place; he must say to his laborers, *come*, not *go*; and he must know by personal observation that there is such a thing as the rising of the sun. With industry, prudence and economy, a farmer cannot fail to grow rich; and an increase of knowledge should be in an equal or increasing ratio.

W. G.

HIGHWAYS—No. XII.

MISCELLANEOUS REMARKS—THE SERIES CONCLUDED.

Having noticed the principal errors of pathmasters, we proceed now to offer a few miscellaneous remarks. Pathmasters, in executing their official trust, should aim supremely at the general interest. We cannot recommend, as some do, to commence operations with a view to great permanency on any one road, or any part of a road, in a style of workmanship so high and expensive, as to require all, or nearly all, the work of the district to be expended at that place. It should, we think, be the general rule of every pathmaster to see, in the first place, that all the roads in his district are brought into a good condition. In order to be in a *good condition*, they must be cleared of all obstructions, especially of stones, from the largest down to the size of hens' eggs—their surfaces must be rendered smooth, and the sluices and bridges be put in good repair. Nothing of all this should, in any case, be dispensed with.

The preceding remarks were intended to apply chiefly to the central parts of roads, but we recommend, in all practicable cases, to smooth the whole area of roads, and clear it of obstructions, thus fitting it and rendering it convenient for the use of travelers. If pathmasters will discontinue the prodigal and mischievous practice of ploughing and throwing up, such funds as have been usually at their disposal, will enable them to do the whole of what has been here suggested, and twice as much.

Here we arrive again at our road standard. It is, we think, the only standard for common use that should be aimed at, under the existing circumstances of the country. If we can have roads cleared of stones and all other obstructions—roads presenting unbroken and smooth surfaces, together with good sluices and bridges, with such attainments we think community should at present be content. During the summer months, such roads will generally be dry and hard, and if watched and taken proper care of, they will at that season be little inferior to McAdamized roads. They will be good also in the winter, and at no time will they be bad. It must indeed be expected, that at times in autumn and spring they will be more or less muddy, but the mud will in no case be deep. Bad ruts and mud-holes need not be, and should not in any case be allowed to come into existence.

We repeat, that it should be the first and supreme care of every pathmaster to bring all the roads in his district to the standard here suggested. If, after this shall have been done, funds remain unexpended, he may then, and we think not until then, select a particular road, or some part of a road, on which to bestow extra labor with a view to greater permanency. In such case he may, at some place in his district, commence a system of durable improvement, by carting on gravel, or by drawing stones and breaking them into small pieces as is done in McAdamizing. It should be remarked here, that stones broken only into large pieces, as has been practiced on many of the turnpikes in this section of the country, are incapable of uniting so as to form a smooth and good road track. Roads constructed of such materials, are always bad. An attempt to improve roads by such means cannot, we think, be recommended, unless the intention be to cover the stones with a good body of earth.

In making and repairing roads, it is a matter of no trifling importance to be supplied with implements, well adapted to such uses. Among the implements which are needed for the performance of highway work, the following may be named as indispensable. Ploughs and scrapers must be used on roads to a great extent, although we protest against that monstrous abuse of these implements which has been practiced in constructing roads in the form of turnpikes. Carts and wagons belong also to the first class of implements needed for the performance of highway work. To them must be added the crowbar, the pick, the grubbing hoe, the common hoe, the shovel, the spade &c.

We have heard of a scraper, designed chiefly, and perhaps solely, for smoothing roads. As we have no doubt that such an impliment might be rendered highly useful on roads, it would please us to become acquainted with its construction, and the manner of its use. We have found, however, that the common scraper, as a substitute for a better, can be used to great advantage in smoothing roads. When used for this purpose, it is carried so as to cut only superficially, thus taking off the higher protuberances, and dropping the contents of the scraper in places that are too low. Thus can roads that have been rendered uneven by cutting and treading while the ground was wet, readily be restored to a smooth and beautiful form.

In the conclusion of this series of essays, we regret to say, that unless the Legislature shall alter our road system so as entirely to change its most prominent features, we have no expectation of witnessing any material improvement, either in the art of road making, or in the condition of our common roads.

D. B.

Marcellus, Onondaga co., Feb. 1837.

Bees.

There has been so much written on bees that I am almost afraid to approach the subject, still I think there might be some more said, perhaps to advantage. At the close of almost every winter, we frequently hear great complaints of the loss of bees, the cause of which is not generally understood. At this season, or in the spring, we hear our neighbors complaining—"I have lost some of the best swarms of my bees, all of which were in tight and warm hives—I know not the cause—they had plenty of honey, and could not have starved—I guess they froze to death." Now this is the more common opinion. We will examine the case, and see if this is likely to be true. I have raised bees many years, and seldom lose a swarm in winter or spring. The cause is obvious. The breath of bees in cold freezing weather accumulates in the shape of frost and ice, and that in large quantities, on the sides of the hive and on the comb—then at each and every thaw that comes in winter and spring is the crisis—the frost and ice melts—the bees and comb become wet, and the bees die of course, if not immediately ventilated, which should be done by raising up one side of the hive two inches or more, where it should remain until the bees and comb become dry, which will be in three or four days, if the weather is thawy—if freezing weather returns, they may be put down again with safety, for the danger is when the ice melts. We know that hives when exposed to the sun warp, and crack sometimes entirely open, and frequently through neglect are left so through the winter; and such hives always winter well, because the opening admits a free circulation of air, which dries the bees. More than nine-tenths of all the losses of bees in this country, in winter, and spring, are occasioned in this way, and yet the generality of people appear nearly ignorant of the fact. Swarms that do winter over most commonly sustain great losses in this way. And this is not the worst: Bees that are wintered over without any care in this miserable way, are very short lived. The moisture and wet in the comb soon causes it to mold, and in moldy comb young bees will die before coming to maturity. Whenever the comb in a hive becomes moldy throughout, the swarm is ruined and will soon die; this generally takes place at the age of three or four years at most. I know there are some exceptions, but this is a general rule.

When the weather becomes warm in the spring, and the bees can get their living, they should be turned up and examined, and all the moldy comb taken out, be the same more or less, and the hive thoroughly cleaned from all filth, by scraping the inside with a caseknife, or something of the like, and a clean board put under them.

Bees throughout the season should be looked to every few days, and the worms destroyed, which can be done in the morning without disturbing the bees; the worms will be found almost invariably under the edge of the hive, unless they have been neglected too long.

One of the greatest difficulties that I ever encountered in raising bees was to prevent robbery. I have tried almost every thing, and the best way that I have discovered or know of, is to let the bees have no more room than is absolutely necessary to pass out and in, especially in the spring and fall, and have them all pass out and in at the front side of the hive, and all other places stopped up, if there be any; then, when they commence to rob, which will commonly be a weak swarm, remove it, and in its place set the strongest swarm you have—then place the robbed swarm where the strong swarm was. Some of the strong swarm will go back and join the weak swarm, and thus two objects are gained. Breaking the comb of robbers will stop them, but we cannot have access to our neighbor's bees at all times, to stop them from robbing ours.

I am trying a hive somewhat similar to Parish's, but I have serious doubts, after all that has been written, whether there is any better hive than the old fashioned. The miller will enter any hive where bees can go, whether it be high or low, in the house-top or in the tree top. I have frequently found them in swarms in tall trees. They enter mine in the house-top as often as they do in the garden.

Z. C.

West Groton, Tompkins co., 2 mo. 20, 1837.

The Monroe Garden and Nursery.

It is sometime since we received the Catalogue of this establishment for the years 1836 and 1837, conducted by Mr. Asa Rowe, Greece, Monroe county, N. Y., and were surprised at its extensiveness as shown by the Catalogue. The quantity of ground it covers, and the number and variety of the fruit and ornamental trees, shrubs, plants, &c. entitle it to a rank but little if any inferior to some of our older establishments. The Catalogue is a pamphlet of 46 pages. From the prefatory notice we extract the following: "This establishment now comprises over twenty acres, and includes of trees and plants in the different stages of their growth, above four hundred thousand. The proprietor has spared no pains or expense in procuring the best varieties of fruits, and particular exertion has been used to introduce the most celebrated new varieties of American and foreign fruits of note. Many of the new varieties of pears are from the celebrated collection of Professor Van Mons. In introducing new varieties the object has been to obtain those which have had the approval of persons well acquainted with the subject."

In looking over the Catalogue we observe 258 varieties of apples, 203 of pears, of which upwards of 50 are the new and celebrated Belgian pears from Van Mon's collection—eminently deserving of cul-

tivation for their excellence—87 varieties of peaches, 10 of apricots, 8 of nectarines, 73 of cherries, 60 of plums, 7 of quinces, a great variety of gooseberries, currants, raspberries, strawberries, &c., 63 varieties of grapes, comprising the best European, and American kinds, 7 varieties of mulberries, including the *Morus multicaulis*, a large stock of which are advertised at very reasonable prices, an extensive collection of ornamental forest trees, shrubs, vines, and creepers, roses, herbaceous and perennial plants, tuberous and bulbous rooted flowers, as pæonies, dahlias, lilies, hyacinths, tulips, &c. and a large collection of green-house plants. The prices are as reasonable as at other similar establishments. We wish its enterprising proprietor success, and we doubt not he will spare no pains to make it merit the patronage of the public.

W. W. B.

From the Silk Grower and Agriculturist.

Experiment with Potatoes.

Mr. Cooke—In No. 19 of your paper I find the account of an experiment by Mr. Hazen, which together with that made by Mr. Hatch of Alstead, and published by you sometime since, would *almost seem* sufficient to satisfy the reader without my communication, but as I had, previous to seeing Mr. Hazen's publication, prepared a history of an experiment I had made with considerable care, and with more mathematical precision than either of those, I send it for your consideration, with liberty to publish it if you see fit, as different results may arise from different modes of management, on different soils, &c. I consider that a *goodly* number of experiments on the same subject to be not amiss.

About the 20th of May, 1836, when planting my potatoes I left five rows for experiment, on each side of which I planted the row with one good fair sized whole potatoe to each hill, I then planted the 5 rows in the following manner: The first row with 3 to 4 small ones laid scattering to each hill, making about the same amount of seed, by weight, of the wholes. I then took the seed-ends, taking as near half the potatoe as I could judge, from a good sized potatoe, like those generally planted in the field; and to each hill laid two of these pieces 6 or 8 inches apart—next I selected some quite large, and took enough of the seed-end to be of equal weight each of one good fair sized potatoe, being generally about half of the great potatoe, and to each hill put one of these seed-ends—the 4th row I cut into quarters and planted scattering about 8 inches apart, all four of the quarters to each hill—the 5th row was planted with two good fair sized wholes to each hill (double the seed of the rest) then next to them, as you will understand, came my wholes, planted 1 to the hill, as I before stated.

Now for the result. To make the story plain, I took as much ground of each sort as produced 100 pounds from those planted with the wholes of good fair size.

1st row, planted with small ones 89 pounds, but only about two-thirds as large as an average of the others.

2d row, planted two seed-ends to the hill, 87 2-3d pounds, and the size about like the produce of the wholes.

3d row, planted with one seed end of a large potatoe to the hill, 92½ pounds, the produce of these being fair and handsome.

4th row, planted with 4 quarters to the hill, 90 lbs. of a quality rather below medium.

5th row, planted with 2 good potatoes to the hill, 105 pounds, having rather more small ones than those planted with single wholes, and although they produced the greatest crop by 5 per cent., yet it is estimated this surplus was only about half enough to compensate for the extra amount of seed planted; therefore on the whole we find the greatest profit in planting one good sized, fair, whole potatoe to each hill, provided the distance of hills be such as I usually make, that is, nearly 4 feet by 2½. But if you are intent on making the hills further apart, then perhaps it would do to put 2 good ones to the hill, but in no ordinary case do I approve of cutting. Repeated experiments in former years have fully convinced me on this point; even cutting into halves and planting both pieces is not quite as good as to plant whole, for in cutting we mutilate the germs of the coming plant with which nature has furnished each potatoe, and being thus lacerated it is rendered incapable of throwing up so vigorous and perfect a plant, and hence deterioration must be the consequence. Nathan Wild.

Chesterfield, March 20, 1837.

On the Proper Management of Posts, with Reference to their utility.

Perhaps there is no subject connected with agriculture, on which a greater diversity of opinion prevails, than the question, whether with reference to their durability, posts should be put into the ground green or seasoned? When I first settled, I took considerable pains to inform myself on this point, by consultation with those whose experience should constitute them proper fountains of information. The diversity to which I have alluded, impaired greatly the acquisition of decisive results. Mr. Thomas Thweatt, of Dinwiddie, a gentleman of great judgment and observation on all agricultural subjects, related to me a circumstance which contributed much to the attainment of my object. He stated, (if my memory be correct,) that in the erection of his garden, a number of posts as he supposed, were prepared and suffered to remain until they were thoroughly seasoned. Its completion, however required one in addition, which was taken from an adjacent tree, and immediately put into the ground. Seventeen years had elapsed, and every post had rotted down, except that one, which remained sound. In the progress of my investigation, another instance was related, in which an entire side of a garden exhibited the same results. My own limited experience furnishes an incident worthy of being mentioned. My garden enclosure was erected of posts while green. Several pieces remained exposed until they were completely seasoned. Out of these a horse-rack was constructed, which was entirely rotted down, while every post in the garden remains firm. From these facts I deduce the belief, that a post planted when green will last longer than one previously seasoned; and for the reason that the operation of seasoning produces cracks in the timber, which admitting the moisture from the ground, cause its decay. I recollect to have read the account of an experiment proving that the inversion of posts from the direction in which they grew, operated beneficially. Two gate-posts were hewn from the same tree—one was planted in the manner in which it grew, the other inverted. The former rotted while the latter was sound. It was accounted for in this way—that nature had formed valves, for the ascension of the sap, which allowed the moisture from the ground to penetrate through the same channel; but that the inversion of these valves interposed a barrier to its admission. This theory corroborates the idea previously expressed, that the moisture of the ground, alternately penetrating within the timber, and in drouths, measurably receding, causes its decay. Whether the posts should be cut while the sap is up or down, I am unable to determine. A writer in some of the numbers of the American Farmer, states that oak timber should be cut while the sap is up, because it is glutinous and forms a cement, or substance which acts as a preservation.

I have ventured to express these hasty and imperfect reflections, with the hope that, although they may not impart any useful information, they may elicit some from others. These are controverted subjects, in which every person who erects a gate or encloses a garden, is deeply interested, and their further discussion will be valuable, at least to S.

—*Farmer's Reg.*]

Silk Investigation.

A few days before the adjournment of Congress, Mr. Adams, Chairman of the Committee on Manufactures in the House, made a report on the culture and manufacture of silk, accompanied by a letter on the subject, from Hon. Andrew T. Judson, of this state. On motion of Mr. Adams, 5000 extra copies were ordered to be printed. As the report was not printed till after the close of the session, and the leaving of the members, a little delay has been occasioned in its distribution; but we hope to receive it in season for our next number.

We have also been presented, by the Committee, with their extensive correspondence with silk growers, manufacturers, farmers and other gentlemen, on this interesting and important subject, with extracts from which we shall enrich our next volume. These letters contain a mass of facts, experiments, suggestions, theories, &c. which are of great value to the practical silk grower, especially to such as are commencing operations. Though the cultivation of the mulberry, the rearing of the silk worm, and, in short, the whole routine of the production of silk is a simple business, yet it is important that the beginner start right, for upon the starting point his future success or failure mainly depends. In this point of view, we think this correspondence invaluable, and we hope every silk grower and beginner in the country will avail himself of it.—*Silk Cult.*

Beet Sugar.

The manufacture of Beet Sugar is attracting a degree of attention which must speedily convince the most incredulous that our country may be thereby rendered wholly independent of foreign countries for supplies of sugar and molasses. If such success has already attended French efforts with inferior beets and defective machinery, what may we not expect from the improvements which Yankee enterprise will soon effect in the cultivation of the raw material and in the machinery for its manufacture! The bounty offered by Massachusetts, (three cents per pound!) is worthy of the character of that state, and must be felt advantageously and immediately by the agricultural and other interests of that enlightened commonwealth. The people of Pennsylvania are also adopting vigorous measures for the introduction of the Beet Sugar manufacture; and the Agent (Pedder) sent from that state to acquire the requisite preliminary knowledge in France, has so reported, that strong hopes may confidently be entertained of the successful prosecution of a business calculated largely to benefit the country, not merely by its intrinsic value, but by the additional field opened thereby for agricultural and manufacturing enterprise. The sagacity of Napoleon is now becoming fully manifest, after all the ridicule showered by his enemies upon his efforts to render France independent of foreign nations for her supplies of sugar. At his downfall, the beet sugar manufacture was prostrated in France by the influence of British sugars, &c. In connection with this subject, the paragraph annexed, which has just struck our view in the Northampton Courier, will prove interesting to many:

"Mr. *Iznard*, the gentleman sent out by the Northampton Sugar Beet Company, arrived at Marseilles, on the 6th of February. Letters just received from him by Mr. Church give ample encouragement to the gentlemen engaged in the enterprise here. He was about visiting an establishment near that city, erected at an expense of $40,000. It had been in operation but two years, and already was capable of manufacturing five hundred thousand pounds of sugar annually. He will examine all the new and old sugar estalishments, and obtain every thing which will contribute to the certain success of the business in Northampton. He will return early in May, and with the bounty of $3,00 per hundred, we are sure this company, with a capital of $200,000, will lead all other establishments in the United States in the Beet Sugar business."—*Rochester Daily Adv.*

Reeling Silk.

Every person who raises cocoons should reel them, if possible; it will be made more profitable, and give more general satisfaction. The seller can, with his silk in the skein, go to such a market as he chooses; not so with the cocoons; he must go to the nearest purchaser, and take what he chooses to give, or the cacoons will perish on his hands. There is no mystery in reeling; it requires patience for a day or two, and *practice* will perfect the work. The simple Italian reel, with the vibrating motion, is all the machinery required. Many persons suppose that American improvements on the reel have done away with all difficulties, and that now a *machine* can reel silk. When we teach the worm to spin its

thread of a uniform size, from the commencement to the finishing of the cocoon, we may talk of "machinery doing the work." It is well known that the thread of the silk worm varies nearly one half from the commencement to the end of the cocoon; the whole art of reeling consists in *keeping up the running threads of an equal size*, by adding new ends as the thread appears to run finer. I would therefore urge it upon all cultivators to procure a simple reel of the value of five or ten dollars, and leave the silk reeled on the loom. A ten pound bundle of silk may be easily sent to market; not so with ten bushels of cocoons; a parcel of ten pounds was sent me by a farmer in October last, for which he received $6,50 per pound, cash; it was raised from a small piece of ground, all in about six weeks. If I have not already wearied your patience, you may hear from me again on the subject of the silk and the mulberry.—[*Silk Cul.*] S. WHITMARSH.

Agriculture and Temperance.

At a late meeting of the Hartford County Temperance Society, a committee, previously appointed, made an interesting report "on the subject of improvements in agriculture, as connected with the success of the cause of Temperance," in which they recommend experiments on the following among other subjects:

1st. The cultivation of unsubdued land. Such land is usually the best, because it lies on streams of water. It has been neglected, because not adapted to the production of grain. But it will yield grass. Let all farmers make encroachments upon their back pastures and swamps, and suffer uplands and plains to rest.

2d. The cultivation of choice fruit. This is valuable, at once, for the family, for the market, and for the feeding of swine and cattle.

3d. The raising of wheat. The experiment may be made with safety. Begin upon a small scale, and if not successful, you lose only the seed.

4th. The cultivation of the sugar beet. It is the opinion of gentlemen acquainted with this subject, that the lands on the Connecticut river are well adapted to the production of this vegetable. If this is true in relation the lands on the Connecticut, it is true also in relation to those on the Farmington river, and of parcels of land on every man's farm. If some suitable farmers would but move in this business, it is believed that a society for making experiments might be formed in the county of Hartford, the present season.

5th. The raising of sheep and neat cattle. Let the products of the farm be consumed by them, and its progress in improvement will be rapid. The evils of this over-production will soon disappear.

6th. In many cases the mulberry might with evident advantage be introduced. This is already, in some sections of the state, a profitable business.—*Silk Cult.*

Agriculture.

"How forcibly," exclaims the Niagara Democrat, "how forcibly should the present scarcity of all the productions of the earth, tend to draw the attention of the owners or cultivators of the soil to the necessity for exertions to introduce a system of more industrious and thorough husbandry. True, the seasons have been unpropitious—but the present crisis in agricultural productions throughout the country, is in a great degree to be attributed to another cause—a neglect of agriculture. Our whole social system has been diseased by the all-absorbing business of SPECULATION. It has drawn the mechanic from his shop, the professional man from his duties, and enticed the tillers of the soil to look for wealth in the inflated bubbles of artificial value, and build their hopes upon the sandy foundations of imaginary sudden gain, rather than by the patient but sure process—the use of the plough. Among the types that the disease has put on, was one which created a species of contempt for ordinary pursuits of industry. Those who have been wrapped in this cloud of airy nothing, have looked down upon plodding labor, as if it was out of fashion, obsolete, and unnecessary. But the disease is working out its own cure; the whole machinery of the social fabric, so jostled and thrown out of gear, by the excitement of sudden and unnatural gain, is undergoing repair. A salutary retribution has inflicted the penalty of transgression, and is enforcing the fiat of the Creator, founded as are all His decrees, in immutable justice. The restrospection of the last three years, will in the end do more to convince us that patient industry is the only natural, healthy means of gain—that, aside from this, all dependence is uncertain and untenable—than would the preaching of an army of political economists. The basis of all industry, of prosperity, must be the pursuit of agriculture. That neglected, it is impious to charge upon the seasons that portion of misfortune which is clearly attributable to our own errors. All the productions of the earth are extravagantly high; the consumer is threatened with starvation; and the producer is not bettered by the emergency, for he has but little to sell—he has neglected his fields, has left the most dignified and exalted of all human pursuits, to chase the retreating shadow of unnatural gain! Let us profit by the bitter lesson of experience; let us suppose, for such reliance is at all times the dictate of wisdom, that the season now opening upon us is to be one of plenty, that the earth will give good returns for all that is committed to its charge—and then, if we come short of abundance, we shall at least have the consolation that we have neglected no duty necessary to the accomplishment of our designs."

A Corn Meal Rusk.

Among the many delicacies in the form of bread, which render the enjoyment of breakfast so acceptable, we know of none more deserving of notice than the one prepared according to the following recipe:

Take 6 cupsful of corn meal, 4 of wheat flour, 2 cupsful of molasses, and 2 tablespoonsful of *saleratus*, mix the whole together, and knead it into dough; then make two cakes; bale them as you would pone, for three fourths of an hour, and you will have one of the most grateful descriptions of bread that ever graced the table.—*Balt. Far.*

Fossil ferns.—There has been discovered near Zanesville, Ohio, in a deposite of coarse red sandstone, immense quantities of fossil ferns, with the broken trunks and branches of various other species of plants of the antediluvian world. In the neighborhood of this place are found numerous other interesting relics. Some places present the appearance of prostrate forests, now nearly bituminised, and others composed, apparently of solid stone.

WILLIAM ATKINSON, *LAND AGENT*, 17 Exchange-street, Rochester. ☞ Farms for sale.
march 4 6m

Mulberry Trees, &c.

THE subscriber has for sale 10,000 Mulberry Trees, four years old. Also three million *Silk Worm Eggs*, well preserved through the winter, at 5 cents per 1000 for the whole, or in smaller parcels at 7 cents per 1000. Apply to JOHN LONGLEY, township of Louth, 4 miles west of St. Catharines, U. C. April 1, 1837.—3t*

Silk Culture.

THE Chidsey White Mulberry Plantation in Venice, Cayuga co can be rented the ensuing season on the most reasonable terms From that plantation, and from Red Mulberry trees in the vicinity, may be made 200 pounds of silk in a season. 400,000 Silk Worm Eggs, one crop species, and 100,000 two crop species, together with apparatus for rearing worms, &c. and Hale's Silk Reel, may be had. The whole offers great encouragment to the Silk culturists. The subscriber has for sale 5000 White Mulberry Trees of two years' growth. AMOS G. BALDWIN.
Aurora, Cayuga county, March 10, 1837 ap 1-3t

Monroe Horticultural Garden & Nurseries, GREECE, MONROE CO., N. Y.

THIS establishment now comprises over 20 acres, covered compactly with Trees and Plants in the different stages of their growth.

The subscriber offers to the public a choice selection of Fruit Trees, of French, German, English and American varieties, consisting of Apples, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Cherries, Apricots, Nectarines, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Grape Vines, Strawberries, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Hardy Roses, Vines, Creepers, Herbaceous Perennial Plants, Bulbous Roots, splendid Pæonies, Double Dahlias, &c. &c.

Also, a large collection of Green House Plants, of choice and select varieties, in good condition.

Orders respectfully solicited. Trees and Plants, when ordered, are carefully selected and faithfully packed, and if desired delivered on the canal one mile from the Nursery, or at Rochester.

Orders for Mr. Rowe's Nursery received by the publisher of this paper.

Catalogues will be sent to every applicant gratis, or may be had by calling at the office of the Genesee Farmer.

April 1, 1837. ASA ROWE.

Early Dutton or Buel Corn.

JUST received at the Rochester Seed Store, the celebrated early 12 rowed yellow Corn. This corn is very productive and early, it was raised last season by Mr. Wm. Pitkin of this city, and ripened well.
apr 1 REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

Durham Bulls.

A FULL-BLOODED, short-horned Durham Bull, IMPROVED BREED; and one two years old the ensuing spring, five-eighths blooded, will be sold by the subscriber if applied for soon. The purchaser may depend on the genuineness of the stock. Gentlemen wishing to improve their breed of cattle would do well to purchase them, particularly dairy men. JOSEPH SAVAGE.
Syracuse, Onondaga Co. March 10, 1837. mar 18 3t

White Italian Mulberry Seed.

A FEW pounds White Mulberry Seed, warranted of the growth of 1836; for sale at the Rochester Seed Store. As the supply this year is inadequate to the demand, persons wishing to purchase will do well to improve this opportunity.
march 4 REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

Agents for the Rochester Seed Store.

OUR distant friends and the public will find a large assortment of Garden, Field and Flower Seeds, which may be relied on as being fresh and genuine, put up and labeled at the Rochester Seed Store, for sale at the following places;

W. & G. BRYANT, Buffalo
G. W. MERCHANT, Lockport
WILLIAMS & DORRANCE, Batavia
GATES, BRADLEY & Co. Le Roy
J. F. WYMAN, Geneseo
J. B. DUNGAN, Canandaigua
BOGARTS & WYNKOOP, Geneva
HOLDEN & VINCENT, Oswego

The above gentlemen are authorised to receive orders and payments for us, for seeds, trees, plants, or any other articles in our line. REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.
march 18

Choice Seeds for Farmers.

NEW French white Sugar Beet, *imported.*
Mangel Wurtzel, or Field Beet.
English purple Top Ruta Baga.
Large Orange Carrot, *for stock.*
White Dutch Clover, perennial Rye Grass, Lucern, Trifoil, Skinless Oats, Broom Corn, &c. &c. For sale at the Rochester Seed Store No. 5 Arcade Hall, by
feb 25 REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

KEDIE & HOUGHTON, Importers of English Field and Garden Seeds, beg to apprize the public that they have now for sale the largest importation of the choicest and best varieties of every kind of Garden and Field Seeds ever offered to the public in Western New-York, all of which have been selected from the most eminent growers in the Old Country, (and of the growth of 1836,) which, together with a large assortment of Seeds of American growth, they confidently submit to the public as being unequalled by any ever offered in any part of the United States, and by adhering to a strict determination of offering no other seeds but the vitality of which shall have been tested, they solicit a share of the public patronage.

K. & H. deem it necessary to state, that Mr. Kedie's intimate connection in England with most of the practical and scientific agriculturists, horticulturists and botanists, with whom he has passed all the former part of his life, gives him an advantage in his selection of seeds for the public good, not surpassed by any other establishment in the Union.

No 6 Buffalo-street, west corner store of the Eagle Block.
Catalogues to be had at the store.
The highest price paid in cash for Grass Seed.
Rochester, Feb. 7, 1837. feb 25

Rochester Seed Store—1837.—No. 5 Arcade Hall.

REYNOLDS & BATEHAM having made their arrangements for the season, would inform the public that they are now prepared to execute orders for all kinds of SEEDS, at short notice.

They have just received from one of the most respectable dealers in London, a large supply of English seeds, which were shipped to their order last fall, of the growth of 1836—which, together with their assortment of American growth, renders their present stock the most extensive and complete ever offered in this country. Their experience in the business in this place, and their extensive acquaintance with seed growers and dealers, enables them to obtain the greatest variety of seeds, from the best sources, and on the most favorable terms; as well as to select such as are best adapted to the soil and climate of this country.

Wishing to sustain the reputation of the ROCHESTER SEED STORE, the proprietors are determined to sell only such articles, and at such prices, as will give general satisfaction, and ensure a continuation of the liberal patronage they have hitherto received.

Merchants and others supplied with seeds at wholesale, by weight, or in boxes for retailing, at a liberal discount. Catalogues may be had at the store gratis, or sent by mail if desired. (feb 18) REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

Morus Multicaulis.

JOSEPH DAVENPORT offers for sale 50,000 plants of the true Chinese Mulberry, or Morus multicaulis. Trees will be carefully packed and forwarded as early as desired. Orders must be sent to Colerain, Mass. till the 15th of March; after which time to Hartford, Ct. All inquiries will be attended to at his plantation, 5 miles south-west of the city. Early orders only will be supplied, as arrangements will be made use all not called for soon.
Colerain, Jan. 23, 1837.

On Reclaiming Swamp Lands.

To the Executive Committee of the Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden Agricultural Society:

Gentlemen—In your last offer for premiums, I observe, under the section, on crops to be awarded next March, the following article—"On the greatest quantity of land reclaimed, and crops therefrom; accompanied with a written description of the management, condition and worth of the land, before and since reclaimed." I have a lot of this kind, which if it has cost me some hard work, has afforded me much amusement, and which will amply remunerate me, if it has not done it already, for the labor I have bestowed upon it.

The lot is 116 rods long, and from 12 to 16 broad—about 12 acres. A few years since it was a swamp, covered with bogs and brakes and bushes—the haunt of snakes and frogs and mud turtles—an entire waste. It was not only useless, but being in the immediate vicinity of my homestead, was a constant eye-sore, and probably unhealthy.

In subduing it, the bushes were first cut and burnt A ditch three feet wide and two and a half deep, was extended the whole length. The bogs and break-heads were then cut with stout and sharp bog-hoes—taking off the surface entirely where it was necessary. These were removed to an adjoining lot of a light, sandy soil, where, by becoming incorporated with that soil, they have evidently so improved it, as more than to pay for the labor. The greater part of this spot of ground thus subdued, has had crops upon it, some parts repeatedly. It is all, at this time, fit for the plough. What the expense of clearing has been, it is impossible for me to state—the labor having been done at different times, and by odd spells, as I had leisure. The expense, however, I am sure, bears no proportion to the enhanced value of the land, together with the beautiful prospect it presents to the discerning eye and the pleasure it affords to a refined taste. As to intrinsic value, lands thus redeemed, are to be ranked with the very best. For some crops, broom-corn and beans for instance, other soils are preferable. But for the standard, substantial crops of Indian corn, potatoes, oats, and the different kinds of grasses raised in our valley, experience will show abundantly, that we have no better lands than those thus reclaimed. Having nothing in view but to subdue and improve them as well as possible, I have never been particular to ascertain precisely the quantity of crops raised. Compared with those raised on the alluvial lands adjoining, however, they will in the proper season of crops, speak for themselves and the soil of reclaimed lands has manifestly the advantage. It is naturally richer.—Having for its basis clay or hard pan, it retains the manure put upon it much longer. It is as easily cultivated, and excepting those portions of the alluvial which are benefitted by freshets, it is, to say the least, as easily kept in good heart.

In ditching, my practice has been to begin where a ditch seemed to promise to do the most good—and where it did not entirely accomplish the object, to try another and another, both parallel and transverse, till the land was thoroughly drained. The sloping ditch is to be preferred, where it is practicable. All the muck that can in this way be obtained is needed for manure on other parts of the farm. Besides, a ditch thus finished, seldom wants repairing. Not being liable to be trodden in at the sides, it rarely needs anything more than the furrow of a plough to clear it. Other advantages are, that a team will be able to pass it, in most places without a bridge; and the land may be cultivated to the water's edge; and even in the water, where it is not to deep, will, in a little time, be swarded.

I have, in several instances, tried the covered ditch with success. It always does well, when well made, and where the water moves quick, so that the stream will clear itself. The method is, leaving space enough for the water, at all times to flow freely, to place across the ditch in almost any direction, sticks of sufficient size and strength to hold firmly the covering that is put upon it. Then lay on brush—something like alders or birches; the straighter the better; then the covering of straw, swingle-tow, shavings or leaves; then a covering of soil and the ditch is done. Where cold springs issue from the sides of hills, over-spreading rods of ground with cold water, occasioning the coarsest kinds of sour grass and moss, it is excellent husbandry to sink a well two or three or four feet deep, directly in the spring and then to cover it in the way above described, and if it continue to overflow where the ground is favorable, connect with it a covered ditch that shall drain it. I have a spot of this kind where the water has become so completely stanched, that the season past I raised corn upon it as good as any in the lot, and the land is thus redeemed from waste.

All the muck that is thrown out of these ditches should be removed to the barn yard or the sty, or to some other place convenient for it to pulverize—mixing with it occasionally as it is turned with the shovel, a quantity of stable manure, and if you have it, a plenty of quick lime or that which is air-slacked. This makes an excellent dressing for crops of every description. This has been my practice for several years, in which I have so far had success that I can with confidence recommend it to my brother farmers.

In making these statements, I claim not the honor of any new discovery. It is only the throwing together on a snowy day a few thoughts in the way of my own experience, as affording encouragement to agricultural enterprise. I am happy to state that my success so far has exceeded my most sanguine expectations. What little I have done has rendered not only beautiful but valuable a spot of ground which before was deformed and worthless. What a few years since was an unsightly and an unproductive swamp in the immediate vicinity of home, is now a handsome lawn, fit for pasture or tillage. The only respect in which I am likely to be a loser, is the music of the frogs in the spring, which I confess I rather regret than otherwise.

Improvement is the order of the day. The field for the husbandman's improvement is in reclaiming his waste lands and in husbanding well what he has. Let other portions of our happy country boast themselves of their mines rich with the dust of gold and silver. The gold mines in which the New England farmer may pride himself, are the moors and the marshes, which by a little grubbing and ditching, are brought under productive cultivation.

I am, gentlemen, with high respect,
Your obedient servant,
D. HUNTINGTON.

Hadley, Feb. 23, 1837.

Heating by Hot water Drawn up from the Bowels of the Earth.

It seems to be now proved beyond dispute, that the temperature of the earth increa es from the surface downwards; and consequently, at a certain depth, the heat of water must be at the boiling point; and at a still greater depth, all materials whatever must be in a fluid state. At the meeting of the Bristol Association in August, 1836, Professor Stevelly suggested the idea of bringing up hot water from the bowels of the earth to the surface; and heating houses, manufactories, &c., with it, so as to keep them at a given temperature, in the same manner as is done with the apparatus by water artificially heated. (*Lit. Gaz.*, Sept. 3, 1836, p. 551.) As, at a certain depth, the water must be at such a degree of temperature, as when allowed to expand, it will instantly become high-pressure steam, it seems not altogether impossible that our stationary steam engines may be supplied with that material without the use of fuel; and hence those who look forward with fear to the period when the coal mines will be exhausted, may derive some small degree of consolation. At all events, it seems not unreasonable to suppose that, if a bore or Artesian well is carried so deep as to penetrate into a stratum of water at a sufficient temperature to expand itself into steam, there will be no difficulty in the water ascending to the surface. If ever so complete a command of water should be obtained by man, in every part of the world, except of course, the frozen zone, the climate and culture of the whole would be altered: and who can tell what may be the ultimate result of the operations of man, in one way or another, chemically, electrically, and mechanically, upon the globe?—*Loudon's Gardener's Magazine.*

Butter.

Instead of setting the pans of new strained milk in a warm cellar for the cream to rise, set them in a cool buttery, where the milk will gradually freeze; and as soon as it is frozen solid, the cream will all be at the top, and ready to be taken off; which can be more easily done by a little instrument made of iron, in the form of a common hoe. More cream is obtained from a given quantity of milk, by freezing it up, than can be obtained in the old way, of letting it rise itself without freezing.

When a sufficient quantity of cream is obtained for a churning, place it in an iron kettle, over a clear fire, and scald it, but not let it boil; stir it often, and skim off the froth as long as it continues to rise. The process of scalding, stirring and skimming, cleanses the cream of its impurities, and saves about three-fourths of the labor of churning, and produces good flavored butter, entirely free from that bitterish taste uniformly found in winter-made butter, in the "old way." When the skimming process has been completed, take the kettle from the fire, and when the cream is cooled down a shade below the temperature of milk, new from the cow, it is fit to put into the churn.—*Yankee Far.*

The Past Winter.—A correspondent of the Boston Gazette, has furnished that paper with meteorological observations for the three months past, from which it appears that the average temperature of Dec. 1836, was 26.57. Do. of Dec. 1835, 19.36. Of Jan. 1837, 18.8. Of Jan. 1836, 23 degrees. Of Feb. 1837, 22.87. Of Feb. 1836, 16.57. Thus it would appear that Feb. 1837 was colder than the Feb. preceding, but Jan. 1837 considerably milder than Jan. 1836.

Mammoth Pigs.

Mr. Cornelius Husted, of Pine Plains, in this county, fattened this fall, a "lady pig" and 11 "blooming responsibilities," the weight of which was twenty-four hundred and thirty-seven pounds.—*Poughkeepsie Telegraph.*

Dutchess outdone by Tompkins.—We are authorised to state, that Mr. C. H. Morrell, of Lansing, has fattened a sow and her litter of twelve pigs, the aggregate weight of which, in a dressed condition, was 3,550 pounds. The pigs were nine months and 10 days old.

This is the largest product from a single family, of the age, which we have any account of.—*Ithaca Chronicle.*

External application to wounds.—There is no practice more common than that of applying spirit, with champhor or the juice of some herb mingled with it, as a cureall for every trifling cut or bruise. "It will draw the soreness all out," is the common remark; but Dr. Alcot in his last Reformer, states that this is entirely a mistaken notion. No external application to our bodies, he says, can be drawing any more than if it were applied to a tree. Spirits, as well as almost every other external application to common wounds are useless. If our health is good, they will heal almost immediately, spirits or no spirits; if health is wanting; if the blood is bad as it is vulgularly called, they will not get well soon in any case, whether we use external applications or not. We have known a slight grazing on the leg in an intemperate man, produce a sore that lasted a whole winter.

All sores must heal—in order to have them permanently healed—from the bottom. If we could heal them at the top first, it would do good, unless the healing at the bottom were to go on equally fast. But when a healthy process of cure has begun from the bottom, it does not usually stop till the whole work is completed.

Fat Cattle.—The following is the weight of the fat cattle, recently exhibited in this city, by Mr. J. Barnes, butcher:

Weight—dressed. *By whom fed.*

1st Ox, 2,064 lbs.—John Barnes.
2nd do. 1,576 do.—Mr. Griffin, of Cold Spring.
3d do. 1,473 do.—Ditto.
4th do. 1,364 do.—Mr. Spalding, of Lockport.
5th do. 1,312 do.—Ditto.
6th do. 1,318 do.—David Easton, of Chaut. co.
7th do. 1,271 do.—Ditto.

The cattle were slaughtered and exposed for sale last Saturday. The best pieces were sold readily at 4s. per pound.—*Buf. Com. Adv.*